

not only the centre of Hellenic culture, but

...had again become the centre of a great co-

lines, taxes, and offerings, drawn from her State, supplied the citizens with means for the erection of monuments of sculpture and drama, especially, suddenly arose to an extraordinary perfection. It was, in fact, an age

us seemed to run riot in prodigality. They were cultivated, not for one class, but the masses, in order that all might listen to the poets as Eurhyles, and Sophocles, and the comedians. The dramatic, lyric, and musical, and oratorical, filled up a vast, intellectual ocean.

ned to be immortal. Athens had suffered as the Peloponnesian war, but with all that resumed her old position, as the centre of a great empire. She needed confederates, for she was in the Spartans. The Athenians and

of the most diverse characters. The Spartan day is the hardship of the camp, and the Athenian day is the pleasure in time of peace. To the less severe and forbidding, and presented more enjoyment and delight than to the other. The day for leadership, but more than the two other

fight for leadership between the two monarchies, was not only a civil war but a clash of different systems, Hellenic and Doric. Of the policy pursued by the Athenians, a hint is given in the funeral oration of the great warrior over the bodies of those slain in battle.

country is entitled to the love of citizens, and defended to the heart of life itself. We enjoy government, not imitating the laws of neighbors, but serving as a model for others rather than from them. It is called democracy, because it does not have a few but a majority of it. It is

how the Athenians had prospered under the guidance of government and displays the deeds of their patriotic ancestors and themselves. He then briefly draws his character:—"During the time he was to stand at the helm of affairs he

his country with solicitude, and under him  
the highest pitch of greatness. After war  
as shown he had a true conception of its power  
of his influence was powerful dignity of char-  
acter, and having conspicuously shown him-

incorruptible of men. He led the people in-  
g led by them, for he did not speak for their  
but dared to have their anger by holding  
city and honor." Such was the true picture of  
of the great man who ruled her by his wise  
elquence. Look on that picture and on the

ideas, whose work is crowded with the profound philosophy, paints in the darkest colors the realizing effects of the civil war. Notwithstanding that threatened Athens, and the many tears shed out to her citizens by designing men to a

and thus in a few years the city soon re-  
siderable part of her ancient ascendancy.  
ership of Demosthenes. Athens maintained  
with Philip of Macedon, and had all the  
were listened to the warnings of Demosthenes.

ous schemes of the northern conqueror was baffled and the liberties of Athens have as it is, she still exercises an immense influence every day over the human mind by her philosophers, and her arts. During the disastrous

condition of her society, socially, philosophically, morally considered, the tone and temper of which must be gathered from the dramatic literature of the times. The tragic stage has been aptly compared to the pulpit at the time of Jeremy Taylor, and should not, under any circumstances, be

few passages which remain to us. Yet, in the comic authors, and in the plays of Aristophanes, and Shakspeare, and the works of Grotius, and Thackeray, we see displays of humor found in general life. For this reason, we w

ly examine the characteristics to be observed in Sophocles' works. He was the contemporary of the greatest tragic poets, historians, and artists, and lived in Athens. Most of his pieces were produced during the Peloponnesian war, and supplied the

is occupied in modern times by the novel, and general periodicals. Society was formerly, and the various agitators were successful. The sophists, in particular, were tried. According to Plato, that class were misanthropists. They would endeavor to pro-

in wrong, that knowledge was ignorance, that the same as silence, that, as the beautiful presence of beauty, so a man becomes an absence of an ass. Aristophanes also satirized men of revolution and reform, annexation

ation. Public men were brought on the stage, actors imitated the dress and actions of the persecuted Socrates' strange person and gestures presented fine scope for ridicule. Accusations were put forth with that object, and Socrates' helplessness at the first process

the military was good or not. Altogether, the language was unrivalled in graphic, literary eloquence, abusive slang, in flashing fancy, philosophical jargon and patriotic cant. The

read through several of the comedies of  
casus which therein abounded in order to ab-  
ridicule which that great master so un-  
ped on the democrats of that time, the annex-  
ment, and the free traders as well as the

After finishing the extracts, the lecturer addressed the ladies and gentlemen, I have thus presented a series of Aristophanes' dramas, and, as it were, in a familiar form of figures and recognize features

**Theatrical and Musical.**

**THEATRE.**—The entertainments for the evening consist of the drama of "Wallace," and the musical comedy of "Writing on the Wall," in which a Dublin's excellent dramatic company will appear.

**ROADWAY THEATRE.**—The Bateman Children.

**PIERCE'S GARDEN.**—Anna Bishop, the distinguished

URTON'S THEATRE.—"David Copperfield," a

**NATIONAL THEATRE.**—The successful Irish drama

**VALLACE'S THEATRE.**—Three beautiful pieces

needed for the evening, namely "Poor Cousin  
"Rent Day," and the drama of the "Happ  
morrow evening Mr. Wallack takes his benefi  
eds be at their post.

liberally parodied. The pieces for this evening, are the "Miller of Whetstone," "The Economy," and the "Last Nail, or a Drunkard's Story."

WHITE'S VARIETIES. — Four amusing pieces presented for this evening, the "Model of a Wagon," "The Bull," "The Fish," "The Dog," and "The Cat."

lumbelle, the "Iron Dragoon," and "Mr. Little," all of which embrace in the cast White artists.

CHRISTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—Christy's Ethiopians advertise another attractive programme.

Wood's MINSTRELS sing many beautiful melodies in instrumental performances.

Miss Fitzpatrick and Mr. Neale are playing in much success.

Mr. Brooke, the tragedian, is playing at the New Theatre, Buffalo.

MADAME SONTAG'S fourth concert, at the Melodining, says the *Boston Advertiser*, of November 1, was a splendid one. The house was crowded with audience, and the pieces in the program rendered. Madame Sontag elicited much enthu-

her singing of the "Polka Aria" and the simple "Home, Sweet Home," as well as by her other complicated parts. Madame Sontag's last concert takes place this evening.

MADAME ALBONI'S CONCERT IN NEW HAVEN.—L

...says the New Haven *Courier*, of Nov. 17, was the most perfect triumphs, in a musical way ever witnessed in New Haven. Brewster's Hall never crowded with so many of the intelligence, beauty, and fashion of California's most gifted daughter and her able associates. The robes of the reharvested encores the

continued strong demands for repetition, whether the concert would have been over before or not. Kindly, however, several of the most choice pieces were repeated. We learn that Madame Alboni will next appear at Hartford; then (on the opening of

land. She then goes southwardly.

of the first appearance of the Tung Hook Le Company, a large portion of the audience of Chinese. The wings or sides of the stage moved for the purpose of giving the greatest exhibition, and the orchestra, composed of

ing the whole performance through with the strains, and regaling themselves in the interludes with pipes and segars. The dialogue being of course intelligible, the American portion of the audience enjoy themselves in imagining what was said.

In admiring the stage properties and the cost numerous performers, some of which wereendid. The performances were also diversified very agile and dextrous "ground and lofig," which seemed to be a portion of the plot.

whole, the exhibition is a great novelty, and to an "outside barbarian," well worth seeing. Performance will be given this evening. We learn from the China paper, that this company is sent out by a number of Chinese merchants in Canton who advance \$2,000 for the freight of the theatre for

passage money. The members of the company are shareholders in the speculation. They have in them the frame work of a large theatre, with provision for erecting it here. —*San Francisco, Oct. 2*